(b) if so, the basis on which price determination made; and

(c) the reason for fixing two rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) The selling price of PDS Kerosene is subsidized while that of Kerosene sold under Parallel Market Scheme is determined on commercial consideration. The excise duty rate is uniform at 16 percent on both the products.

Annual average price of petroleum products

†2949. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that average Annual price of petrol, diesel and L.P.G. has been determined at Rs. 12636.88, Rs. 12712.40 and Rs. 11932.00 per ton, respectively to recover the excise duty for the year 2002-03;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for variation in the prices of above mentioned products; and

(d) the details of other expenses included in the price of LPG, apart from the actual cost of its production, alongwith the details of the rates thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The annual average assessable value for petrol, diesel and LPG for the year 2002-03 for computation of excise duty was Rs. 12,636.88/KL, Rs. 12712.40/KL and Rs. 11,932/MT respectively.

(c) While, the variation in the domestic consumer prices of petrol and diesel was on account of variation in the international prices of these products, the prices of Domestic LPG were not revised during

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

2002-03 except for a revision in the distributors' commission effective 01.11.2002.

(d) Oil Marketing Companies pay to the refineries the prices of Domestic LPG on import parity basis. The other elements which are added to this price to get the retail selling price of the product include *inter alia* bottling charges, freight costs, duties and taxes, etc:

Crude Oil Prices in International Market

2950. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the prices of crude oil in the international market during each of the last six months;

(b) the impact on domestic prices of petroleum products and oil pool deficit due to increase in the international prices of crude oil;

(c) whether Government propose to follow policy of market price instead of subsidised price in regard to petroleum products; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) The monthly average FOB price of Brent (dated) crude oil in the international market during the last six months were as follows:

	(US $/bbl)
Feb'03	— 32.67
March'03	— 30.54
April'03	— 24.85
May'03	— 25.72
June'03	— 27.51
July'03	— 28.35

(b) to (d) With the dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism in the Petroleum sector effective 1.4.02, the pricing of all petroleum products, except for PDS Kerosense and domestic LPG which continue to be